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Richard Seidel  
Kammie Cuneo

c/o Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sirs,

I'm writing with regard to examiner Thanh S. Phan, who handled my daughter's (and my) recent patent application (#10/004,964).

This was a particularly awkward situation, since I had not previously filed as a pro-se inventor, and examiner Phan had not previously handled a pro-se inventor. Examiner Phan's openness and helpfulness helped achieve a final positive result.

His willingness to explain and discuss things after OA-2 finalized was most helpful in generating an RCE. He cited a marked improvement in the claims vs. the previous submission, and handled minor modifications himself to place it in condition for allowance.

He was quite complimentary on the improvement. I returned some of that praise to him and his help, and volunteered to pass this word on. Hence, this note.

Facing the bureaucracy is a pretty scary thing for the uninitiated little guy. He helped me through it.

With thanks,

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P.S. - A co-worker who previously worked for the USPTO said you might also be interested to know that this invention was my daughter's 4th grade school invention convention project. The fundamental approach and some of the claims were wholly her idea. She's been involved in each step of the process, from concept through patent... and from here, we'll see. This proved to be a better education for her future as an inventor that I could have imagined.